

I continue to be dismayed at the unnecessary burdens being proposed for small market radio groups, like the Localism Proceeding. There is evidence that the large corporate media giants, i.e. ClearChannel Communications, are using their strong influence over Chairman Powell to squeeze out the little guy. The greatest injustice here is that small market radio is virtually the only ones who are wholly focused on serving the communities they serve, while the large corporations continue to focus solely on the almighty dollar. This whole process has become totally political. Under the Bush Administration we are seeing small business, including small market radio operators, forced to jump through ridiculous hoops that have no merit, but that guarantee an eventual collapse and forced sale. If Chairman Powell were doing his job he would be less concerned with promoting new ways to squeeze out the little guy and focus his attention on prosecuting giants like ClearChannel for obvious economic extortion tied to their political agenda, as we saw with the Dixie Chicks fiasco. (I love to hear Bush state that we are fighting in Iraq to provide them the very freedoms we enjoy in America! Really? Ashcroft and Rumsfeld are robbing us of more freedoms every week under the pretext of "National Security", and the Conservative Media giants have now threatened our Freedom of Speech rights by successfully imposing economic extortion tactics against those who dare to challenge the Bush Administrations blatant lying and overt promotion of fear tactics to implement their agendas.) Howard Stern is right - ClearChannel MUST die. Their continual acquisition of concert venues, advertising agencies and promotion companies is a blatant conflict of interest. Were Bill Gates to ever operate as ClearChannel Communication does the Bush Administration would have him in court for years. But again, by playing the favorable political card with Chairman Powell, their conflicts of interests go unaddressed. We fault the Islamic t! errorist
s for using violence to promote their religious views - what exactly do we call the Bush Administration's aggression in the name of God - who Bush claims is on his side? Under our present administration our country is heading towards a hopeless demise in credibility - and forcing out small business with agendas like the Localism Proceeding, which favors politically friendly big corporations is a perfect example.

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